

EPA: Glufosinate-Ammonium; Notice of Filing a Pesticide Petition to
Establish a Tolerance for a Certain Pesticide Chemical in or on Food

I am opposed to use of the herbicide Glufosinate for the following reasons:

A) Glufosinate has been classified by the EPA as a "persistent" chemical, and has been found in the edible parts of food, including spinach, wheat, and radishes, more than 120 days after being sprayed with the chemical.

B) Peer-reviewed scientific studies have shown Glufosinate to be "highly toxic" to wildlife at doses as low as 0.5 ppm. Because rice is grown in an aquatic environment, this chemical poses great risk to the ecosystems of rice growing areas.

C) Farmers growing transgenic crops are already detecting herbicide resistance in weeds as a result of gene transfer, rendering the herbicides useless. If Bayer's petition is approved, it will only be a matter of time before Red Rice, which is the same species as cultivated rice and also an extremely noxious weed on rice farms, becomes resistant to Glufosinate. Such a gene transfer will lead to a dependence on new, more toxic herbicides.

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